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# SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE  
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1906.

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## THE CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE.

THREE days after the earthquake of April 18, Governor Pardee appointed a committee of inquiry consisting of Professor A. C. Lawson, of the State University; Mr. G. K. Gilbert, of the U. S. Geological Survey; Professor Fielding Reid, of Johns Hopkins University; Professor J. C. Branner, of Stanford University; Professor A. O. Leuschner, of the State University; Professor George Davidson, of the State University; Professor Charles Burrekhalter, of the Chabot Observatory, and Professor William Wallace Campbell, director of the Lick Observatory. Professor Lawson was elected chairman and Professor Leuschner secretary. The results of the inquiry communicated to Governor Pardee on May 31, are as follows:

One of the remarkable features of the Coast Ranges of California is a line of peculiar geomorphic expression which extends obliquely across the entire width of the mountainous belt from Mendocino County to Riverside County. The peculiarity of the surface features along this line lies in the fact that they are not due, as nearly all the other features of the mountains are, to atmospheric and stream erosion of the uplifted mass which constitutes the mountains, but have been formed by a dislocation of the earth's crust, or rather a series of such dislocations, in time past, with a differential movement of the parts on either side of the plane of rupture. In general this line follows a system of long narrow valleys, or where it passes through wide valleys it lies close to the base of the